

PROJECT CONNECT



Pictured from left to right: Cyndy Tonkavich & Amy Stikovich

What great volunteers Northern Community Mediation has! Cyndy Tonkavich, Amy Stikovich and Denise Drake (not pictured) took time out of their busy days to help at the NCM table at Project Connect, which is an initiative of the Human Services Coordinating Body to provide a day of service for those in need in Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. The various non-profit and service organizations within the two county area all have representation, such as MANNA, Women's Resource Center, and Northern Community Mediation. Thanks to Case Manager Laura Buckingham, there was even a table for people to get information about their pets. This year's event was held from 10:00am to 3:00pm on Wednesday, April 10 at North Central Michigan College, and over 200 people came to the event.

LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA

From 1:30 to 4:30 on Thursday, May 16, Northern Community Mediation is sponsoring a workshop that will be held at Tribal Headquarters in Harbor Springs. This will be an opportunity for mediators and board members to learn about the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. Phil Harmon, who is the Executive Director of Unit 1 of the LTBB of Odawa and is a tribal member himself, will be the facilitator. Topics to be covered include the culture, history, symbolic and sacred qualities, language, medicines, governmental structure, and the departments and programs. There will also be a tour of the facility. Registration for the workshop is required and is limited to 20 participants. The registration form is available on the NCM website at URL

Bangan means it is peaceful / it is quiet in Ojibwe.

APPRECIATION GALA

Put this date on your calendar

Thursday, May 30 5:30pm to 7:00pm
Palette Bistro in Petoskey

The Appreciation Gala is always a special evening. It gives us an opportunity to get together for a fun evening, plus it gives us an opportunity to recognize mediators, board members and community followers who are supportive of NCM. And, there are going to be some big surprises this year. So, set the date and time aside and plan to be at Palette Bistro from 5:30 to 7:00 on Thursday, May 16.

REMINDER TO MEDIATORS

In trying to make your lives as mediators easier, the Northern Community Mediation staff is making the following suggestion. When doing a Zoom mediation in which an agreement is reached, ask all parties to remain in the Zoom room until all parties have signed the agreement.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Three of Northern Community Mediation's (NCM) desktop computers were purchased in May 2014. One of these was updated to a solid state drive in March 2017 and again to a larger solid state drive in August 2020 so that it had the capacity to function not only as the computer for the executive director but also function as the server for the organization. The other two computers were updated to solid state drives in January 2019. The fourth desktop computer was purchased in June 2015 and updated to a solid state drive in January 2019. At this point in time, updating the four computers is not a reasonable options. All four need to be replaced.

The Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation has awarded Northern Community Mediation \$3,280 to go towards the cost of this project. So, here is a shout out to the PHSACF.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Every person was born with a set of spiritual instructions or understandings, my girl. It's what we do with it that defines us as human beings." ~ Aimée Craft from *Treaty Words: For As Long As the River Flows*.

INTERESTING-USELESS FACTS

1. Native Americans spoke more than 300 languages.
2. The first newspaper in a Native American language began publishing in 1828.
3. There are 574 federally recognized tribes in the United States.
4. Native Americans were granted American citizenship in 1924.